



The Advent Wreath

First Sunday of Advent

At the beginning of Mass, the Priest will call a family to light the Advent Candle. At the end, the congregation prays:

Father, You awaken in us the desire for the coming of Your Son. May he kindle in us the light of his love, and bring us to the Kingdom of justice and peace You promise all people.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Today's Candle lighters are:

- 5.00 pm: **Raquelle Diaz**
- 9.00 am: **Adrienne Bertok**
- 10.30 am: **Felicitas Flores**
- 12.00 pm: **Catholic Women's League**
- 7.00 pm: **Michelle Desiato**

Parish Week / Sunday, 28 Nov. 2021

Saturday, 27 Nov.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Rev. Vincent Heffernan (Carol Morra)
- 2.30 pm St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation #1
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Carol Morra

SUNDAY, 28 NOV. / Advent 1-C

- Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galeao
- 2nd Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Zeca Almeida (Ondine)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Deceased CWL Members (CWL Council)
- 1.00 pm Catholic Women's League
- 2.30 pm St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation #2
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 29 Nov.

- Fr. Edwin Galea: 41st Ordination Anniversary

- 8.00 am Mass: † Mike D'Mello (Jane)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Beatriz Remedios (family)

Tuesday, 30 Nov. / St. Andrew, apostle

- 8.00 am Mass: † Lorenzo Sr. & Belen Merin (Gina Arroau)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)

Wednesday, 1 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Grandparents & Souls in Purgatory (Caroline)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Erunda Euidente (Trinidad)

Thursday, 2 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † The Unborn (Lillian D'Souza)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Maria Campea (Reardon)

Friday, 3 Dec. / St. Francis Xavier, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Theresa Johnson (family)
- 6.00 pm Holy Hour
- 7.00 pm Mass: † The unborn (Audrey Caza)
- 7.30 pm RCIA

Saturday, 4 Dec. / St. John Damascene, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: † Lourdes Mary Louis (Maria Aloysius)
- 10.00 am RCIC
- 12.00 pm Memorial Mass: † Vito Corrado
- 2.30 pm St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation #3
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Mary Thanarajan family)

SUNDAY, 5 DEC. / Advent 2-C

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo

- 9.00 am Mass: † Nicholas A Ohya (Mary Joseph)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Michael De Souza (Lillian, Annabel, D'Souza family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Special Intention (Dominic & Anita)
- 2.30 pm St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation #4
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo



Pray for the Deceased

The **5 victims** of the **terrorist attack** in Norway

A New Liturgical Year

The current liturgical year, "B," ends with the week after the Feast of **Christ the King**, which this year is on:

21 November 2021.

The next Sunday is the **1st Sunday of Advent**;

28 November 2021.

It starts a new Liturgical Year, "C" in our 3-year cycle of readings. The Sunday Gospels will be from the evangelist **Luke**.

2nd Collection: 28 Nov., Maintenance

The 2nd collection on Sunday, 28 Nov., will be for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

COMING UP

11a21

- 6 Dec. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 12 Dec. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
- 19 Dec. **4th Sunday of Advent**
- 22 Dec. **Fr. Armand Joseph Desaulniers**, death anniversary (1988)
- 24 Dec. **Christmas Eve Masses** begin at 7.00 pm
- 25 Dec. Christmas: Feast of the **Nativity of Our Lord**
2nd Collection: *Christmas*
- 26 Dec. Feast of the **Holy Family**;
- 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

All must wear a face mask inside the Church. It is not mandatory to sanitize hands, but it is recommended and available for those who wish. For more information on Parish activities, such as the schedule of upcoming **Confirmation** celebrations, check pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation, 1st Reconciliation

We have resumed our celebration of CONFIRMATION, an extremely important event in the lives of our Youth.

The families of Candidates in our schools who have prepared to receive this Sacrament will be given direction so they can move ahead. Keep referring to the **website bulletin** for more details.

The Grade 8 *St. Maria Goretti School* Confirmations will be held:

Saturday	27 November	2.30 pm
Sunday	28 November	2.30 pm
Saturday	4 December	2.30 pm
Sunday	5 December	2.30 pm



Each Candidate is allowed to invite 6 guests, including parents and a Sponsor. As soon as these liturgies are completed, we will schedule the preparations for the **1st Reconciliation** celebrations for the students who have recently made their First Communion.

Saturday Class

Madame **Beatriz Yamal** has begun preparation for the Sacraments of *Reconciliation* and *1st Holy Communion* for those students not in our Parish schools. To register, call: **Fr. Elias**, 416-261-0076.

RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

The RCIA meets Friday evenings at 7.30 pm; their next meeting is on 3 December. The RCIC meets Saturday mornings; their next meeting is on 4 December.

A Special Gift WEDDING SIGNING PEN

Our Parish extends its thanks to Mrs. **Zeze Kattan**, who donated a beautiful black pen for the *Signing of the Register* at the Wedding of her son **Alfred Kattan** to **Julianna Valente** on 25 September 2021. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Sunday Missals

The 2022 Sunday Missals are available at the Sign In table in the Vestibule after Sunday Mass, and at the Office on weekdays.

CWL Bake Sale 5 December

The CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE will hold a *Bake Sale* after the Sunday morning Masses, 5 December. One of our members will have home-made pickled vegetables available; donations of \$10 or more will enable 50% of the proceeds to be directed to *ShareLife*.

Pandemic Contact Tracing Sign In

Parishioners are reminded to *Sign In* as they enter the Church. This procedure is a part of the government mandate for contact tracing. There is a binder on the Sign In table in the Vestibule.

ADVENT PREPARATIONS

Christmas Flowers

Parishioners are invited to sponsor this year's display of CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS in our Sanctuary. Donation envelopes are at the Office window.



If you wish to *dedicate* your flowers, please fill out the "Christmas Flower" form in the donation envelope. Dedications will be accepted until noon on Monday, 20 December.

The forms are intended to remember *one person* for each pot donated. If you wish to honour more than one person, you may submit the name of a pair who share a common family name; or, for many persons, "For the members of the _____ Family."

Advent Day of Confessions

Wednesday, 8 December: 4-5 pm, 7.30-9 pm

As part of our ongoing program of spiritual growth, **Cardinal Collins** invites Catholics of the Archdiocese to receive the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* on a DAY OF CONFESSIONS in Advent.

In our parish, it will be on: **Wednesday, 8 December.**

Parishioners may come for Confession from 4.00 – 5.00 pm, and again following the 7.00 pm evening Mass, from 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

Upcoming Weddings

Jefferson and Richein

22 April 2022

Abe Sena and Jan Wage

16 July 2022



Jackie Gleason and Audrey Meadows as Ralph & Alice Kramden in THE HONEYMOONERS.

CONFIRMATION

The Commissioning: *Go and Make Disciples of all Nations*

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and the EUCHARIST
together comprise the SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION.



Confirmation completes Christian initiation, and strengthens the Candidates by the gift of the Holy Spirit. They are empowered to serve as witnesses of Christ, to spread and defend the faith by their words and deeds.

The Commissioning of the Disciples (Matthew 28.16-20)

- ¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee,
to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
- ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.
- ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded
you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

My Sponsor

Confirmation Sponsors “Accompany the candidates, present them to the Bishop for anointing, and then help them fulfill their baptismal promises by the influence of the Holy Spirit.” (*Rite of Confirmation*, # 5)

Since a Sponsor has such a significant role to play in the development of Confirmation candidate it is important that this person be one who is a living example of faith, one whose actions reflect the actions of Jesus.

A Sponsor offers prayer and encouragement during the Confirmation preparation process and as their candidate matures in life.

The Arrival of the Holy Spirit

After the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, the Apostles were left amazed, and they were unsure what to do. Jesus came and spent 40 days with them, and promised that they would receive the Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2.1-4)

- ¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
- ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
- ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
- ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Reconciliation

Receive this Sacrament, and return a completed slip at your next Mass.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12.1-7)

- ¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.
- ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
- ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;
- ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
- ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.



The Life of the Early Church (Acts 2.14a, 36b-38,41-42)

¹⁴ Peter stood with the eleven and addressed the crowd,

³⁶ “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

The First Converts

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

The Spirit in the Old Testament

The Hebrew word for “spirit” (*ruah*) can also mean “wind” (Gn.8:1; Num.11:31; 1Kg.18:45) or “breath” (Gn.7:15; Ec.3:19; Jer.10:14). The two images can be combined so that *wind* is the *breath of God* (2 Sam 22:16; Ps 18:15; Is. 40:7).



“Breath” is a common expression in Scripture for the human spirit (Gn.41:8; Exod 6:9; Ezek 3:14). The start of life is divinely willed; and the end of life is the return of our spirit to God, who gave it in the first place (Ec.12:7). The power of God is visible in myriad ways, but it was seen especially in the charismatic leaders of the Israelites, the prophets, and those who fulfilled God’s saving will.

The Spirit in the New Testament

As with the Hebrew *ruah*, the Greek word *pneuma* can likewise mean “wind,” “breath,” or “spirit.” But in the New Testament, we also see explicitly what was hinted at in the Old Testament: that the Spirit is not an impersonal force, but a divine Person, who is God along with the Father and the Son.



St. Peter Basilica, Rome: Holy Spirit window.

Confirmation

Gift of the Holy Spirit

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and the EUCHARIST comprise the SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION. Confirmation completes Christian initiation, and strengthens the Candidates by the gift of the Holy Spirit. They are witnesses of Christ, bound to spread and defend the faith by their words and deeds.

Origins of the Sacrament

The Old Testament prophets announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the awaited Messiah for his saving mission. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his Baptism in the Jordan by John was the sign that this was the expected one: the Son of God, who would communicate the Spirit to the entire messianic people. On Pentecost, filled with the Holy Spirit, the Apostles began to proclaim the mighty works of God, and Peter declared this outpouring of the Spirit to be a sign of the messianic age.

In the Letter to the Hebrews, the doctrine on Baptism and the Laying on of Hands is listed among the first elements in Christian instruction. The Laying on of Hands is recognized as the original sign of the Sacrament of Confirmation, which perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church.

The Bishop

The original ministers of Confirmation are the Bishops, the successors of the Apostles. They have received the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. (The Bishop may transfer this mandate to the local Parish Priest.) The Sacred Chrism used for the Anointing was blessed at the Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral during the previous Holy Week.

The Sponsor

The Sponsor is a fully-initiated member of the Church who:

- ❖ Represents the community; ❖ Will support the parents;
- ❖ Testifies that the Candidate will be a witness for Christ.

The original Godparent may perform this duty; or another adult who serves as an example of Christian living.

The Name

The Confirmation Name is the Christian *Baptismal* name, or the name of another *Saint* who will serve as a lifelong patron and prayer partner to the newly-confirmed.

Effects of Confirmation

The purpose of the Sacrament is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as it was given to the Apostles on Pentecost:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind...divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability. (Acts 2.1-4).

The entire Church benefits by Confirmation: it conveys the grace of *Pentecost*, enabling us to live with the fruits of the Holy Spirit:

Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Generosity, Goodness, Perseverance, Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Contenance, Chastity.

Confirmation has several important effects:

- (1) **It makes us more aware of God;**
- (2) **It releases the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:** Wisdom, Knowledge, Counsel, Understanding, Courage, Piety and Reverence of the Lord.
- (3) **It unites us more firmly to Christ;**
- (4) **It binds us more perfectly to the Church;**
- (5) **It gives us strength to spread and defend the faith by our words and actions in order to:**
 - ✕ be true witnesses of Christ;
 - ✕ confess the name of Christ boldly;
 - ✕ never be ashamed of the Cross.

Confirmation perfects the grace of Baptism, and imprints a spiritual mark or permanent, indelible character on the Christian's soul. A Candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith; be in the state of grace; desire to receive the Sacrament; and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both in the Church and in the world.

The Liturgy

Confirmation is ordinarily celebrated within the context of the Holy Mass. Following the Proclamation of the Word of God, the Sacrament is administered in this order:

Presentation of the Candidates

Homily

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

*Laying On of Hands*¹

*Anointing with Sacred Chrism*²

¹ LAYING ON OF HANDS: The Bishop faces the people and introduces the prayer. Then he (and any concelebrating Priests) extend their hands over the Candidates, and ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit upon them.

² ANOINTING WITH CHRISM: Candidates walk to the Sanctuary. The Bishop goes to them individually, takes some Chrism, addresses them by their Confirmation Name, and makes the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads.

Bishop: “ _____ , be sealed with
the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Newly Confirmed: “AMEN.”

Bishop: “Peace be with you.”

Newly Confirmed: “AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.”





Reign Stewart receives his *Blessing in Preparation for Baptism*, 17 November 2021.



Corine Maulion is joined by friends at the Memorial Prayers for her father **Hermenegildo**, on the anniversary of his death, 23 November 2021.



Denise and Maxene Domingo receive their *Blessing in Preparation for Baptism*, 25 November 2021.



Tatum Degorio receives his *Blessing in Preparation for Baptism*, 21 November 2021.